

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Spain

DATE DISTR. 11 JUL 50

SUBJECT Spanish Monarchists in Lisbon and the
Activities of Felix VEJARANO

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1. The exact status of Spanish Monarchist-Socialist negotiations was uncertain as of mid-June 1950, as far as Lisbon Monarchists were concerned, source deduced from statements made at various times during early June by Pedro SAINZ Rodriguez. Faulty communications between Paris and Lisbon were blamed for the lack of concrete information. SAINZ Rodriguez explained that Felix VEJARANO dislikes to write letters, preferring to cable general summaries of his activities, frequently in laconic terms subject to misinterpretation.
2. SAINZ Rodriguez stated on 7 June that the Monarchists had received a cable from VEJARANO saying: "Conversations highly favorable to our cause." It was not known whether the message meant that VEJARANO had conferred with Secretary ACHESON. A few days later, SAINZ Rodriguez said that he assumed that VEJARANO had seen and talked with the US Secretary of State personally; subsequently, he stated definitely that such an interview had taken place.

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4. SAINZ Rodriguez said that he was awaiting word from VEJARANO as to when he could release the "successfully negotiated agreement" with Spanish exile Socialists, the essential point of which is a four-year truce during which the leftists will make no move for political changes. Source found SAINZ Rodriguez somewhat elusive regarding this agreement; one day, it was signed; the next, it was a gentlemen's agreement needing no signature but was operative; the next, it probably would be signed the following day.

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5. Military overthrow of the FRANCO regime is not contemplated by the Monarchist agreement with leftist groups, according to SAINZ Rodriguez. The agreement rather anticipates a peaceful coup brought about by military pressure on General FRANCO from his Captain Generals; the Monarchists hope to convince the Captain Generals that to continue with FRANCO means the complete destruction of Spain. The military men then would try to convince FRANCO that it would be better to retire gracefully than to be thrown out. According to SAINZ Rodriguez, many of the Captain Generals have been undecided, merely awaiting the successful termination of negotiations with the labor organizations to assure them that the new government would be unimpeded by internal strife. A Falangist coup, in anticipation of a similar one by the Monarchists, is unthinkable, SAINZ Rodriguez said. "The Falange is dead, hated by the people and by the Army; it has been kept artificially alive by the government alone; it has no force."

6. Don Juan's personal plans reportedly are somewhat dependent on the results of VEJARANO'S various negotiations. As of mid-June, he

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[REDACTED] If it developed that VEJARANO'S negotiations were more successful than was definitely known in mid-June, the Pretender was to make another trip to Rome to report to the Pope. After VEJARANO'S full report is received, however, the Monarchists may decide that the visit to Rome should be postponed until after VEJARANO'S return from a trip to the US.

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